



# Henrietta Fire District Dispatch

Fall 2015

## A Message from the Chief

by Chief Jim Comstock



Chief Jim Comstock

The strength of any organization is based on the strength of the personnel who make up that organization. The Henrietta Fire District has been blessed with having individuals of great strength and dedication. Whether career, volunteer, firefighter, or civilian staff, the Henrietta Fire District personnel are dedicated to serving the public.

Recently two of those dedicated individuals, Lt. Steven Hahn and Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Sharp have retired from the HFD.

Lt. Steve Hahn joined the HFD in October of 1976 as a volunteer firefighter in West Henrietta. Steve and I joined the fire department on the same evening. Steve was hired as a career firefighter in 1986. Steve was promoted to Lieutenant in September of 1995. Lt. Hahn was a dedicated employee and an aggressive firefighter. Lt Hahn was responsible for the maintenance of all Henrietta Fire District facilities. Lt. Hahn was also the group 4 supervisor at Station 4 on Bailey Road. Steve could always be counted on to assist

with projects, serve on committees, or work diligently to complete tasks. Steve is missed by his co-workers.

Secretary/ Treasurer Barbara Sharp was probably the most important person in the Henrietta Fire District over the last 20 years. Barb was hired by the district in 1987 as a clerk. Barb was appointed Secretary/ Treasurer in 1991 after the retirement of Harry Smith. Barb has served in that capacity until her retirement this year. Barb was responsible for all human resources issues, budget preparation, investments, accounts receivable and payable, meeting minutes for the commission, payroll,

and many other items that found their way to her desk. Barb has been an important member of the Henrietta Fire District management team. Barb will be staying with the Henrietta Fire District on a part time basis as we transition to our new Secretary/ Treasurer Barb Schaeffer.

I personally will miss these individuals. They were not only co-workers but friends and my neighbors for many years. I know their families and watched their kids grow up. The Henrietta Fire District and I wish them well in their retirement and thank them for their dedicated service to the citizens of Henrietta.



LT. Steve Hahn & Barbara Sharp



### Fire District Budget Hearing

Tuesday, October 20

5:30 pm

Henrietta Fire District Station 4  
850 Bailey Road

### Fire District Commission Election\*

Tuesday, December 8

4:00-9:00 pm

Henrietta Fire District Station 4  
850 Bailey Road

\*All registered voters in the Henrietta Fire District are eligible to vote.

### Henrietta Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners

- Commissioner Joe Martin (Chairman)
- Commissioner Bill Gilchrist
- Commissioner Frank Myers
- Commissioner William Heist
- Secretary – Treasurer Barb Schaeffer
- Counsel Louise Beale
- Fire Chief Jim Comstock

# OPEN HOUSE

We would like to invite the public to the Henrietta Fire District Open House that will take place on Saturday October 10, 2015. The Open house will run from 12:00 PM until 3:00 PM at Station 4 (located at 850 Bailey Road). This event will help wrap up the National Fire Prevention Week, and give us an opportunity to showcase some of the services we provide to the residents of the Town of Henrietta. We will have things to do and see, for all ages.

**Saturday, October 10, 2015 • 12:00 - 3:00 PM**  
**Station 4 • 850 Bailey Road**

West Henrietta Fire Department, Inc.  
774 Erie Station Rd.  
PO Box 201  
West Henrietta, NY 14586

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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### ACTIVITIES

- Fire Apparatus Tours
- Tour our Safety Trailer
- Tour the Monroe County Special Operations Truck
- Try our Extinguisher Trainer
- Have your picture taken at our free photo booth
- Spray Water from a Fire Hose at a target
- **1:00 PM** Vehicle Extrication Demonstration
- **2:00 PM** Live Fire and Sprinkler Demonstration
- Coloring Contest
- Free Balloons, Stickers, Fire Hats, Pencils and Educational Materials
- Free Cider and Donuts
- Free Ice Cream (Provided by Bruster's)
- Much Much More

**Come and visit your fire house, It will be a fun and informative day for the whole family.**



## TO BETTER SERVE YOU

**Henrietta Fire District Grant**

Early this year, the Henrietta Fire District applied for a grant of \$461,973 through the Assistance for Firefighter Grant Program (AFG) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). On August 28th the Henrietta Fire District was notified that we were awarded the grant. This grant will be used to replace our Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Our current SCBA are 15 years old and have reached the end of their useful life. Our current SCBA bottles are required by

law to be replaced within the next year. These new SCBA will meet the most recent NFPA and Niosh standards and provide the greatest safety for our firefighters.

Congresswoman Slaughter summed it up best in her press release for the grant when she said "For more than 45 years, the Henrietta Fire District has been serving and protecting residents during times of great need. When the alarm rings, the men and women of the Henrietta Fire District are the first responders

**New Engines**

On April 7th 2015 voters of Henrietta approved the fire district to purchase 2 new fire engines, to replace ageing engines that are located at Station 4 on Bailey Road and Station 5 on Pinnacle Road.

A fire Engine also called a pumper is the basic piece of fire apparatus that is used to get water from a fire hydrant on to a fire; obviously this would be impossible without an adequate number of Firefighters.

The new engines will provide a safer riding area for our firefighters, in-

creased storage space and increased foam capabilities. The new 642 and 652 are expected to be delivered by Emergency One in March of 2016.

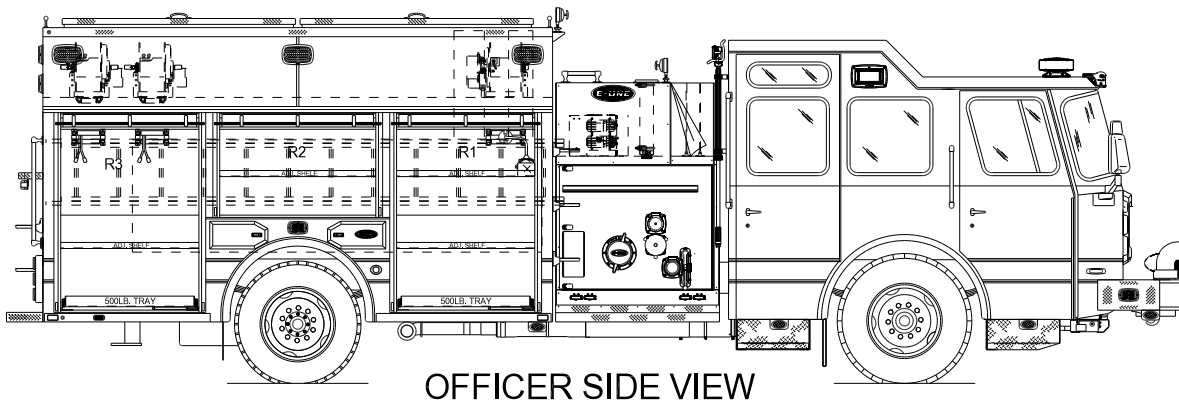
**The engines will carry**

- 750 gallons of water
- 30 Gallons of foam

we count on. Today's grant announcement will allow the fire district to purchase much-needed new equipment and will help ensure they're prepared when we need them most"

Since the inception of the AFG grant program the Henrietta Fire district has applied for and received over \$1,000,000 (1 million) in grant funds.

- 2100 Feet of hose
- Basic Extrication rescue tools "jaws of life"
- Basic Life Support Equipment with Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Basic Haz-Mat monitoring and spill mitigation tools
- Mobil Data Terminal with GPS



OFFICER SIDE VIEW

## PERSONNEL NEWS

**Nine Recruit Firefighters complete Firefighter I Training**

On Wednesday evening January 7, 2015 eight recruit volunteer firefighters for the Henrietta Fire District were sworn in by Chief of Department James Comstock. The recruit firefighters completed the Henrietta Fire District recruit class and became NYS certified Firefighter I.

The Henrietta Fire District recruit class includes the NYS Firefighter I curriculum, the NYS Hazardous materials – Operations Level

curriculum, NYS Confined Space Awareness, NYS Fire Fighter Survival, and Basic Life Support - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The entire training course has over 120 hours of classroom and hands-on training, and is designed to give the students the basic training required to operate safely and effectively at emergency scenes.

The Firefighters completing this training were: Firefighter David Yantz

Firefighter Lovelle Moton  
Firefighter Nick Ferraina - HFFD  
Firefighter T.J. Ellinger - Mendon  
Firefighter Kellie Jacobs  
Firefighter Dan McLean  
Firefighter Adam Jacobs  
Firefighter Patrick Frediani - Rush

We would also like to recognize the following individuals:

**Academic Excellence Award Winner**

Adam Jacobs

**Leadership Award Winner**

T.J. Ellinger

**Achievement Award Winner**

Patrick Frediani

A short video of the skills and classes these firefighters participated in is available for viewing at the Henrietta Fire District Website, [www.henriettafire.com](http://www.henriettafire.com) and also on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WapSamMrasA&feature=youtu.be>

**New volunteer recruit Fire Fighter training instructors and a new curriculum**

The Henrietta Fire District has appointed 3 new Municipal Fire Instructors for the Volunteer Recruit Training Program. New York State has just implemented a new recruit Fire Fighter curriculum.

The new instructors are Lieutenant Mark Woods, Firefighter Todd Strassner, and Firefighter Justin Tam. These members have taught multiple drills in the past and are all very experienced in adult learning. The addition of these three instructors brings the total number of instructors for our recruit training program to 5.

Lieutenant Mark Woods was hired by the Henrietta Fire District in 1994 and is currently assigned to Station #5, Group 1. Lieutenant Woods holds a NYS Fire Instructor II certification.

Firefighter Todd Strassner was hired by the Fire District in 2007 and is currently assigned to Station #5, Group 1. Firefighter Strassner holds a National Certification for Fire Instructor I.

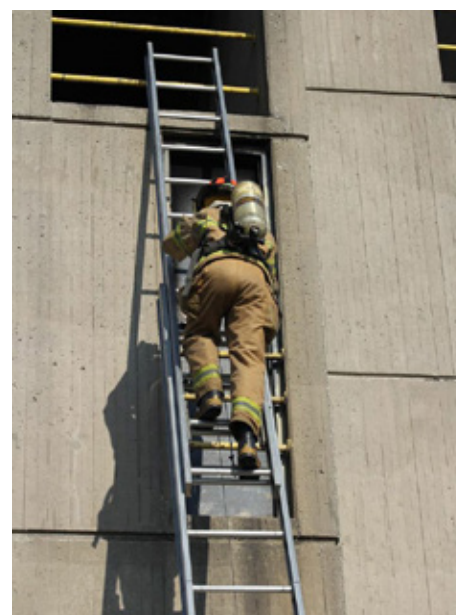
Firefighter Justin Tam came on the job in 2002 and is currently assigned to Station #4,

Group 4. Firefighter Tam holds a national certification for Fire Instructor II.

The former recruit program was 96 student contact hours of instruction, the Henrietta Fire District increased these student-instructor hours to 140, with the addition of Auto Extrication, CPR, Fire Fighter Survival, and extra skill development drills. The new program has been increased by New York State to 101 Student contact hours; correspondingly the Henrietta Fire District has increased the hours of our program to 161 hours. Recruits that successfully complete the training course will have earned the following New York State Certifications; Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter Survival, Accident Victim Extrication Training, Hazardous Materials - Operations Level, Confined Space Awareness, and National Safety Council First Aid and CPR.

Our Current Recruit Training Course is underway with 7 Henrietta Recruit Fire Fighters, 1 Brighton Fire Department recruit, and one Walker Fire Department recruit.

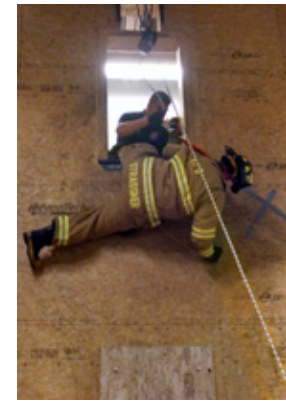
The leadership of the Henrietta Fire District is committed to the best training we can pro-



vide to our recruit fire fighters. With the addition of more instructors, the dedication of our volunteer staff (that provide invaluable logistic and instructional support), and this new training program our recruit fire fighters are better prepared to handle the career in front of them.

**Bailout Training**

On January 23, 2005 in the Bronx, NY two firefighters died and another four were seriously injured while searching an apartment building during a fire. While inside the fire, conditions deteriorated and they needed to escape out a window.



As a result of that incident New York State enacted legislation requiring fire departments to issue all of their interior firefighters emergency escape systems. This system will allow us to safely escape from elevation during an

emergency. After evaluating the many systems available, the Henrietta Fire District decided to purchase the Sterling F4 Bailout System for its members.

In The Winter of 2015 we started training our members on the Sterling F4 System which Consists of a 50' piece of escape rope, a descent control device, and a carabiner.

**Please Give a Warm Welcome!**

The HFD would like to welcome Barbara Schaeffer to our administrative staff. Barb came to the District in July 2014 having worked at the Seneca Park Zoo Society as Business Manager, the Town of Canandaigua as Bookkeeper to the Supervisor and as Business Manager at the Country Club of Mendon. She was appointed as our new Secretary/Treasurer in May 2015. Barb's duties as Records Manager and Chief Fiscal Officer include budgets, financial reporting, maintaining records, preparing minutes and human resource duties. Barb is a graduate of Rush Henrietta Sperry High School. She and her husband Kevin are lifelong residents of Henrietta. Their recently blended family of two sons and a daughter reside in West Henrietta.

## Have Questions About Installing Your Car Seat?

Is the car seat in tight? Are the harness straps positioned properly?



When should my child use a booster seat?

**We have the answers!!!**

The Henrietta Fire District can teach you how to install your child's car seat!

Have questions or want to schedule an appointment Call 334-1234 and ask to speak with the on duty car seat technician

## Annual Genesee Valley Fire Department Turkey Party

Saturday, November 21 Starts at 7:00pm  
Genesee Valley Fire Department  
9 Riverview Drive (off River Meadow Drive)



In addition to over 40 turkeys being raffled off, there will be games, free food and refreshments and door prizes. Admission is free. For more information, contact Bill at gvfire@gmail.com.

## Henrietta Company 1 Turkey Party

Saturday, November 14  
The fun starts at 7:00pm  
3129 East Henrietta Road  
**SEE YOU THERE!**

## Henrietta Firefighters Honored

On October 8, 2015 at the Joint Fire Services Awards Dinner several Henrietta Firefighters will be honored.

Lieutenant Mark Audino, Lieutenant Mark Woods, FF. Brian Reynolds, FF. Doug Barber, FF. Bill Mosher, FF. Francis Martin III, FF. Todd Strassner, and FF. Jeremy Meisenzahl will receive the Gold Seal Award.

The Gold Seal Award is awarded a firefighter who intelligently and in the line of duty distinguishes himself/herself by the performance of a courageous act involving great risk of imminent serious personal injury while saving a life, or attempting to save the life of a fellow human being.

On May 18, 2015 at 17:29 the Henrietta Fire District responded to a MVA at milepost 361 EB on the NYS Thruway. Upon arrival, command found a driver trapped in a heavily damaged cab of a tractor trailer. Engine 646 and quint 640 arrived on the scene, did a size up, and initiated rescue operations. As the crews began to work, they smelled a pungent odor and a burning sensation in their eyes. A liquid then started dripping from the trailer. The crew immediately donned SCBA and returned to the rescue. Engine 652's crew joined the rescue efforts. Within fifteen minutes, the driver had been extricated and sent to gross decon. A perimeter was established and the firefighters were gross deconned. All individuals were kept out of the area until the hazmat team arrived. The quick actions of the firefighters and officers on Engines 646, 652, and quint 640 under adverse and dangerous conditions facilitated the quick extrication and timely medical treatment for the driver. Henrietta Ambulance transported the patient to

the hospital with numerous serious injuries.

These firefighters worked in a hazardous atmosphere involving multiple leaking chemicals including poisons without regard to their own safety to quickly extricate the trapped driver. The truck was carrying 44,000 lbs. of mixed load including 10 different chemical compounds.

The crews from Rescues 618, 628, and Engine 612 will be receiving the Unit Commendation Award for their actions in support of operations at the May 18th incident.

A Unit Commendation is presented to members of a department who, while acting collectively as a team, intelligently and in the line of duty distinguishes themselves by a meritorious achievement, act, or service to the Department performed in a manner substantially beyond normal expectations in similar circumstances.

Chief Jim Comstock will be awarded the Michael Sadden Award.

This award is intended to recognize exemplary conduct of a firefighter over an extended period of time, rather than highlighting one particular act of heroism, for which awards have been established.

The recipient must have contributed his/her time and efforts to the fire service in a significant way, well above that required by either his or her vocation or avocation, to the extent that he or she stands out among his or her fellow firefighters and/or predecessors in connection with the accomplishments he or she has made in the furtherance of the fire service.

Chief Jim Comstock's first exposure to the fire service was as a small child. His father was a member and Captain of the Mattydale, NY Fire Department and later an Asst. Chief with the

Calcium, N.Y. Fire Department. Chief Comstock joined the Henrietta Fire District in 1976 as a volunteer firefighter rising to the rank of Battalion Chief. Chief Comstock became a career employee of the Henrietta Fire District in 1984 and has served as a Firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, Municipal Training Officer, and Battalion Chief. Jim was promoted to Chief in 2006.

Chief Comstock served as an Instructor for the Monroe County Fire Bureau for 13 yrs. and was a New York State Fire Instructor for 10 yrs. He also served as a specialty Lecturer for the Monroe Community College Criminal Justice Training Center for 12 yrs.

Chief Comstock serves as an Incident Commander and Operations Section Chief with the Western NY Incident Management Assistance Team. He also is part of the Monroe County Special Operations Team where he serves as an IST member. He is also a NYSEMT and a NYS Code Enforcement Officer.

Chief Comstock has served on several Monroe County Committees including most recently, the Special Operations Leadership Group and the Operations Committee for the trunked radio system.

Chief Comstock has been a member of the NYS Association of Fire Chiefs for a number of years. He has served since 2010 on the Paid Officers Committee. Chief Comstock has also been active with the Career Fire Chiefs of New York State and served as President from 2011-2015. Chief Comstock was elected in June 2015 as a Director of the NYS Association of Fire Chiefs.

Chief Comstock is a member of the IAFC, VCOS, ICC, and NFPA.

**Save the Date!**  
**Fire District Budget Hearing**  
**When:** Tuesday October 20, 2015 @ 5:30 PM  
**Where:** Henrietta Fire District Station 4 (850 Bailey Road)

**Save the Date!**  
**Fire District Commissioner Election\***  
**When:** Tuesday December 8, 2015 @ 4:00 - 9:00 PM  
**Where:** Henrietta Fire District Station 4 (850 Bailey Road)  
\*All registered voters in the Henrietta Fire District are eligible to vote

**Save the Date!**  
Don't Forget Daylight savings time ends on **Sunday, November 1st** this year

When we change our clocks we should change the Batteries in our smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms & Remember you should test these alarms once a month!

**Henrietta Fire District Responses over the years**

1990 we responded to 1,170 calls for service  
1995 We responded to 1,608 calls for service  
2000 We responded to 2,660 calls for service  
2005 We responded to 3,544 calls for service  
2010 We responded to 3,618 calls for service  
2014 We responded to 4,282 calls for service  
Through September 10th 2015 we have responded to 3,153 calls for service.

**EVERY BEDROOM NEEDS A WORKING SMOKE ALARM.**

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 4-10, 2015**

firepreventionweek.org

Hear the **BEEP** where you **SLEEP**

Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA.

## Adopt-a-Hydrant Program

The Henrietta Fire District offers the Adopt - A - Hydrant program to elementary students at all the Rush-Henrietta Elementary schools. We ask the child (or family) to "Adopt" a fire hydrant. The children are asked to keep the fire hydrant accessible for the fire department by cleaning weeds and debris from around the hydrant, and keeping it clear of snow in the winter time.

We hope this program will increase awareness of the important role that fire hydrants play in the protection of their homes and additionally foster civic participation in the children.

The children fill out an adoption form and return it to school. The Henrietta Fire District will then issue an "Adoption Certificate" with the child's name and Hydrant location on it. In addition to the certificate, one participating child from each school will be chosen for a special ride to school in a fire truck.

I would like to express a special thank you to all the families that participated in this program last year. We had an incredible amount of snow that you shoveled, to help us save time while responding to emergencies in your neighborhoods.

These pictures are of the winners of the ride to school for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

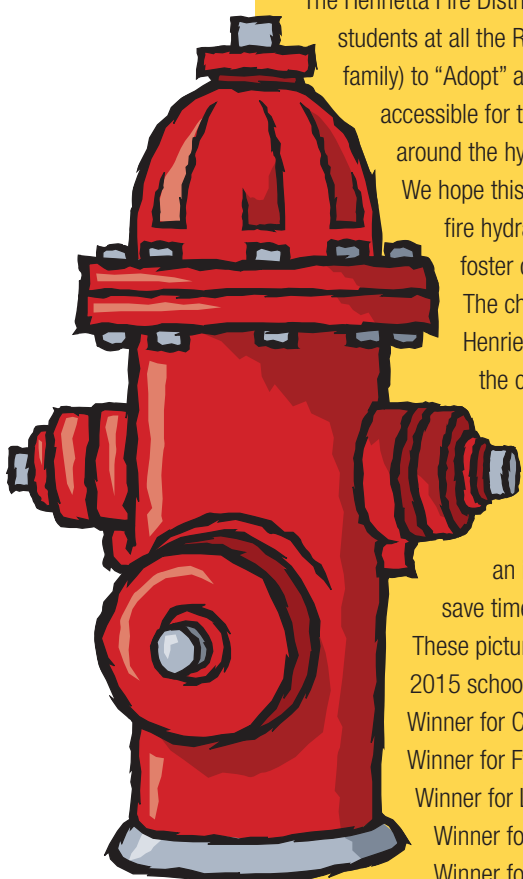
Winner for Crane School, Olivia Pernesky

Winner for Fyle School, Addison Hobbs

Winner for Leary School, Nina Cochren

Winner for Sherman School, Parker Baldwin

Winner for Winslow School, Nicholas Brocollo



# Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

## "COOK WITH CAUTION"

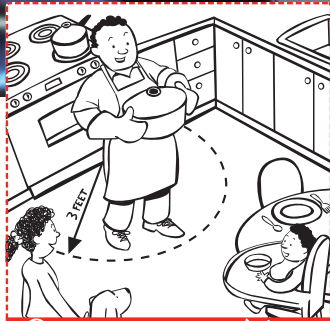
- » Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- » Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, boiling, or broiling food.
- » If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the kitchen while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- » Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

## If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- » On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- » For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

## If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...

- » Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- » Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.



## Cooking and Kids

Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

### FACTS

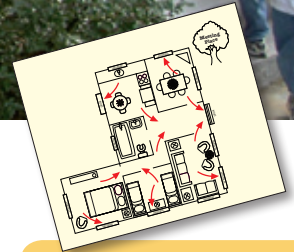
- ! The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ! Most cooking fires in the home involve the stovetop.



**NFPA** Your Source for SAFETY Information  
 NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

# Escape Planning

Plan Ahead! If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.



## SAFETY TIPS

- » MAKE a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home showing all doors and windows. Discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
  - » KNOW at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
  - » HAVE an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
  - » PRACTICE your home fire drill at night and during the day with everyone in your home, twice a year.
  - » PRACTICE using different ways out.
  - » TEACH children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
  - » CLOSE doors behind you as you leave.
- IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...**
- » If the smoke alarm sounds, GET OUT AND STAY OUT. Never go back inside for people or pets.
  - » If you have to escape through smoke, GET LOW AND GO under the smoke to your way out.
  - » CALL the fire department from outside your home.

### FACTS

- ! According to an NFPA survey, only **one of every three** American households have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.
- ! While **71%** of Americans have an escape plan in case of a fire, only **47%** of those have practiced it.
- ! **One-third** of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often less. And only **8%** said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!

Henrietta Fire District

**NFPA** Your Source for SAFETY Information  
 NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

For more information call 359-7191

# Is There a FIRE in You?

Do you have the Commitment, the dedication, the drive to do something great? Have you always wanted to do more for your community, but you didn't know how or where to start? Have you been longing to take on a new challenge and be a part of something big and impactful, where pride is the reward?

## Join the Henrietta Fire District!

### Get Involved

By joining the Henrietta Fire District, you are afforded the chance to truly make a difference in your community. This is your opportunity to get involved in something rewarding and meaningful. You'll find out what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter, to have the courage to act, the ability to perform.

### Give Back

Giving back is answering the call when no one else will. It's providing the safety and reliability the community needs. It's the ultimate service to your community. You might think at first that you don't have the time — until you feel the honor of helping out your neighbors in a way that no one else can, when they truly need you. You'll realize nothing is more worth your time.

### Train for Safety

Your first thought may be that you're not trained to fight fires and handle emergencies. But when you join the volunteer fire service,

you're trained to be safe. You'll receive continuing education on the most current technology and equipment as you go along to hone your first responder skills. You can rest assured you're making a huge difference in your community and doing so in the safest way possible thanks to the exceptional training provided to you.

### Benefits

As a member of the volunteer fire service, not only do you get the satisfaction of helping others, but you get free training, tuition assistance and other great benefits. You become part of a new family, a brotherhood and sisterhood unlike any you've ever known.

Do it for the pride, the honor of it all, and most of all, do it for your community who needs you. You will find that it will be one of the best decisions of your life.

Find out if you have what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter. Take the first step. Volunteer at [www.henriettafire.com](http://www.henriettafire.com).

Is there a **FIRE** in you?

**NYS Volunteer Firefighter**  
 Name: Jessie R.  
 Occupation: College student  
 Number of years as a volunteer: 2  
 Status: Wife  
 Nickname: "Smiley"

I always wanted to give back to my community but didn't know how. Joining my local department turned out to be one of the best decisions of my life.

Take the first step. Volunteer at [www.HenriettaFire.com](http://www.HenriettaFire.com)

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Other potential benefits of becoming a volunteer firefighter include but are not limited to: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free training</li> <li>• Retirement benefits</li> <li>• Tax breaks</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life insurance policies</li> <li>• Being a team member</li> <li>• Tuition assistance</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|



If you have any questions or comments please contact us at the Henrietta Fire District  
 850 Bailey Road • West Henrietta, NY 14586 • 334-1234

[www.henriettafire.com](http://www.henriettafire.com)